

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 748

By Haynes

A RESOLUTION to recognize Ms. Judy Wahlstrom on the
occasion of her retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those persons who, in their years of work, have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm; and

WHEREAS, Judy Wahlstrom is one such estimable person who has served with probity for more than 30 years with the state of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, a native of Nebraska, Ms. Wahlstrom is proud to call Tennessee home; and

WHEREAS, she pursued a degree from Draughons Business School and began her tenure with the state of Tennessee on May 26, 1969, as a receptionist with the Department of Human Services; and

WHEREAS, this remarkable woman's skill and experience was an asset within the Department of Human Services for more than 30 years; she subsequently moved to the newly formed Department of Children's Services in 1996; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Wahlstrom has been a loyal and dedicated employee even through reductions in the work force; she takes her responsibilities seriously due to her sincere compassion for the lives of the children and families her work influences; and

WHEREAS, she supported four attorneys as a most able secretary; a true team player, she goes beyond the call of duty to assist those with whom she works, as she believes and demonstrates that everyone is important to accomplish objectives; and

WHEREAS, she is an active and important part of the community and her profession, participating in numerous civic organizations, including the Tennessee State Employees Association (TSEA) where she has served with probity on every committee and in most leadership positions; and

WHEREAS, Judy Wahlstrom attended the original organizational meeting of the TSEA in September of 1974; she served with acumen and alacrity as the President for two terms and will begin her third term in July 2000; and

WHEREAS, she even dedicated her own kitchen table and chairs as the Association's first office furniture; she was instrumental in creating TEAM, the political action committee of TSEA, and helped build the TSEA's Education Scholarship Foundation which awards 21 scholarships each year; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Wahlstrom believes state employees need and deserve an organized voice on Capitol Hill; she has served in numerous political races at the local, state and federal level; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Wahlstrom also contributes her time and numerous talents to her church; she has been a valued member of Memorial Evangelical Lutheran Church for 33 years, where she is on the Church Council and serves as co-chairman of Evangelism and Social Ministries; and

WHEREAS, she also is a member of the Board of the East Nashville Cooperative Ministry, the Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, a contributor to the Lutheran World Relief, a weekly contributor to Second Harvest Food Bank, and weekly volunteer for 14 years at the Room in the Inn serving the community's homeless; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Wahlstrom exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that is characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, devoted to her mother, Sidney, who has been a real inspiration to Judy throughout her life, Judy plans to spend precious time providing round-the-clock care for her; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Wahlstrom shares love and support with a special young cousin, fondly referred to as “Nicholas the Great”; and

WHEREAS, outside of her numerous responsibilities and commitments, Judy Wahlstrom is an avid balloon enthusiast, having attended school on piloting hot air balloons, enjoys gardening, and is a great fan of the Cincinnati Reds baseball team;

WHEREAS, throughout her career, Judy Wahlstrom has demonstrated a remarkable ability to motivate others to reach their potential, winning the respect and admiration of her peers; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we extend to Judy Wahlstrom, a most dedicated public servant, our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.